IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

determining [a metric] one or more metrics representing a quality of a current association between a wireless network client and an access point;

comparing the [metric] one or more metrics against a plurality of thresholds [threshold]; and

setting a timer to [delay a roaming] a value responsive to comparing the one or more metrics against the plurality of thresholds, on the expiration of which to attempt to roam by the wireless network client.

[comparing a plurality of metrics against a plurality of thresholds, and setting the timer in response.]

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the [metric] one or more metrics comprises a received signal strength indicator.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the [metric] one or more metrics comprises a current data rate.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the [metric] one or more metrics comprises a number of packet retries.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the [metric] one or more metrics comprises a received signal strength indicator, and the [threshold] plurality of thresholds is dependent on the current data rate.

7. (Currently Amended) A method comprising setting a timer to one of a plurality of values to [delay a] upon the expiration of which to attempt roaming [attempt] by a mobile station in a wireless network, wherein the value to which the timer is set is influenced by a value of a metric that represents a perceived quality of a current association[, and wherein the mobile station attempts to roam after the timer expires].

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein when the perceived quality of the current association is relatively low, the timer is set to a value that is relatively low.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein when the perceived quality of the current association is relatively high, the timer is set to a value that is relatively high.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein setting a timer comprises setting a hardware timer.

13. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein setting a timer comprises setting a software timer.

14. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

comparing a first metric representing a quality of a current association between a wireless network client and an access point to a first threshold and conditionally setting a timer to a first value;

comparing a second metric further representing the quality of a current association between a wireless network client and an access point to a second threshold and conditionally setting the timer to a second value; and

attempting to roam when the timer expires.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the first metric comprises a data rate.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the first threshold corresponds to the lowest possible data rate.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the second metric comprises a received signal strength indicator.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the second threshold is dependent on the current data rate.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the second value is larger than the first value.

20. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising comparing a percentage of missed beacons to a threshold, and conditionally attempting to roam in response.

21. (Previously presented) A non-transitory computer-readable medium adapted to hold instructions that when accessed result in a computer performing:

comparing a first metric representing a quality of a current association between a wireless network client and an access point to a first threshold and conditionally setting a timer to a first value;

comparing a second metric further representing the quality of a current association between a wireless network client and an access point to a second threshold and conditionally setting the timer to a second value; and

attempting to roam when the timer expires.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the first metric comprises a data rate.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the first threshold corresponds to the lowest possible data rate.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the second metric comprises a received signal strength indicator.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a radio interface to interact with a wireless network; and

a processor coupled to the radio interface, wherein the processor is adapted to set a timer based on a value of a metric that represents a perceived quality of a current association, and further adapted to attempt roaming when the timer expires.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the timer is at least partially implemented in hardware.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the timer is at least partially implemented in software.

28. (Previously Presented) An electronic system comprising:

an omni-directional antenna;

a radio interface coupled to the omni-directional antenna to interact with a wireless network; and

a processor coupled to the radio interface, wherein the processor is adapted to set a timer based on a value of a metric that represents a perceived quality of a current association, and further configured to attempt roaming when the timer expires.

29. (Original) The electronic system of claim 28 wherein the timer is at least partially implemented in hardware.

30. (Original) The electronic system of claim 28 wherein the timer is at least partially implemented in software.